

**Abstract**

Catheter for the aspiration, fragmentation and removal  
5 of removable material from hollow bodies, in particular  
of thrombi and emboli from human blood vessels,  
comprising a working head (11) which is displaceable  
along a guide wire (6) independently thereof and is  
arranged at the distal end of the catheter and which  
10 has at least one lateral opening (14), the catheter  
(10) having a flexible transport screw (13) which can  
be rotated by means of a rotary drive (2) of a drive  
unit (1), which rotary drive is a distance away from  
the working head (11), and comprising a flexible tube  
15 (12) surrounding the transport screw (13), connected to  
the working head (11) and intended for removing the  
detached thrombi and emboli fragments, and a cutting  
tool, the transport screw (13) being in the form of a  
shearing cutting tool cooperating with the opening (14)  
20 of the working head (11), in order to comminute the  
detached thrombi and emboli between the peripheral  
borders (13a) of the transport screw (13) and borders  
of the openings (14).